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Remarks

Claims 14, 16-21, and 27-28 are pending. Claims 1-13, 15, and 22-26 have been canceled. Claim 14 is the only independent claim. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application is respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended to correct informal errors at page 1 to change "sepsis" into --sepsis--, and at page 9 to change "hole 13a" into --hole 24--.

Claim 16 has been amended to clearly define the originally disclosed structure of the filter, in a manner believed to allow to overcome the rejection of claims 16-21 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

The independent claim 14 has been amended to include the structural features of the filter from the previous claim 15, which is now cancelled, and to also include the structural feature of the venous line 23a (Fig. 1) which provides a fractionous return of purified plasma to the patient, the other fraction flowing to the stage 21 for blood dialyzation by purified plasma, as described originally at page 8, lines 17-30.

Applicant submits that the invention as now defined in the amended independent claim 14 is novel and inventive over the prior art of record.

In particular, it is noted firstly that the primary reference **Shettigar (GB 2124511)** discloses a blood filtrate circuit 5, 11 (page 4, lines 21-32) that only provides a regenerated blood filtrate, such that said circuit 5, 11 apparently is not equivalent to applicant's claimed plasma purification circuit that provides purified plasma. Accordingly, even if the filter of Fig. 2 of the secondary reference **Baudet et al. (USP 4,038,190)** were substituted for the haemofilter 2 of **Shettigar (GB 2124511)**, applicant's claimed invention which obtains blood dialyzation in the stage 21 by means of a countercurrent flow of purified blood plasma, and which provides the advantageous

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affects as described originally at page 9, line 30 to page 10, line 9, would not be arrived at.

Secondly, it is submitted that there if no teaching, hint, or suggestion including any fair motivation in either **Baudet et al. (USP 4,038,190)** or **Shettigar (GB 2124511)** that would lead a person having ordinary skill in the art to make the substitution of the haemofilter 2 of **Shettigar (GB 2124511)** with filter of Fig. 2 of **Baudet et al. (USP 4,038,190)**, to arrive at the particular connections of applicant's filter as now set forth in the newly amended claim 14. Specifically **Baudet et al. (USP 4,038,190)** also never discusses in blood dialyzation in stage in particular by means of a countercurrent flow of purified blood plasma, rather there is only discussed generically dialysis such as for example an artificial kidney (col. 1, lines 17-18), only in a manner similar to the artificial kidney of **Shettigar (GB 2124511)**.

Thirdly, it will be noted that nowhere is there disclosed or fairly suggested in the prior art of record to provides applicant's claimed venous line 23a providing fractionalized flow of the purified plasma, in addition to the blood dialyzation stage 21 by means of a countercurrent flow of purified blood plasma, also directly back to the patient. Such a claimed structure advantageously provides for a particularly effective and efficient plasma binding capacity, as described originally at page 9, lines 7-14 of applicant's original disclosure, which is not arrived at nor suggested anywhere in the prior art of record.

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully solicits allowance of pending claims 14, 16-21, and 27-28.

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encl. -Petition For Revival of Application Abandoned Unintentionally.